WOES OF THE SWEAT-SHOP

Rev. Alex. Kent's Powerful Sermon on the Evils of the System.

HOW THEY MUST BE REMEDIED

Instructive Description of the Sweating Process in Various Lines of Business-Disease and Degradation Its Inevitable Results-National Legislation Alone Can Meet the Necessities of the Case.

In pursuance of the suggestion made by the Union for practical progress, that the pulpit should lift up its voice in protestation against the "sweating" system, which has developed into so great an evil in our large claises, flev. Alexander Kent, of the People's church of this city, delivered last Sunday the following powerful sermon on the subject: 18ATAH 58: 1-11.

The Union for Practical Progress, an or ganization recently formed to unite and direct the moral forces of the country in efforts for social improvement, has requested all the ministers of our larger cities to give one service of this Sunday to a consideration of the evil known as the "sweating" system. This may seem to many people a rather unprofitable subject for Washington people to consider. But it need not be. We are human, and nothing that concerns humanity so vitally as this can be matter of indifference to us. Besides, that even we have something more than a concert or burner interest in the subject While our city is not yet at all largely a manulacturing city, it deals quite extensively in manufactured goods, and our people have a solfish as well as a human interest in the character of these goods, as affected by the conditions under which they are manufactured. This will be very obvious as we learn what class of goods this "sweating" system most seriously affects.

In considering this subject there are three Important questions to which we should seek satisfactory answers.

1. What is the "sweating" system? 2. What are the evils peculiar to this system? and,

2. How can these evils be remedied? 1. As to the system itself, what is it? I feel obliged to answer the question very much as the little boy did the question of his Sunday school teacher as to who was the meekest

woman, "Please, ma'am, there never was no meekest woman. The fact is, there is not any "swenting" system. So far as there is any system it runs through nearly all branches of industry, and in most branches is generally recognized as onte. The term "swenting" is not applied to it in these branches. It is only when we come in the clothing industry, eigar-mating and a few minor industries that the term "awesting is applied to a method or process common to all branches. This method or process is one that suffers middle men to or process is one that suffers middle mentocore in between the menulacturer, or the
person for whom the goods are to be made,
and the workman, or persons really making
the goods. It is precisely the same multion
that is used commonly in outliding operations.
Here, for instance, is a man who has a million
of dollars that he proposes to put into a lot
of land and block of houses, instead of hiding the goods. It is precisely the same randood that is used commonly in outling operations. Here, for instance, is a man who has a million of dollars that he proposes to put into a lot of land and block of houses. Instead of hiring mento do the work and a practical builder to superistend them, he lets the work out in bulk to a single contractor, who makes a business of taking such jots. This contractor may either hire the workmen and tractor may either hire the workmen and contractor may either hire the workmen and contractor may either hire the workmen and contract to the process, while the quarters toward which he work assume to the most watched and is proposed.

tractor may either hire the workmen and superintend the work himself, or he may subjet the work to other contractors—the coundations to men who make a specialty of that, the stone work to stone masons, the brick work to bricklayers, the wood work to capenters, etc. This is, in fact, what is usually done in the construction of farce blocks of buildings. Yet this method is never spoken of, so far as I know, in this connection as a "sweating" process. But the moment we come into the clothing industry, where precisely the same method is followed—the only difference being in the conditions under which the mean of them work and the vork or clothing industry. Where precisely the same method is followed—the only difference being in the conditions under which the mean of them work in the system of getting work done through contractors and subcontractors is characterized as the "sweating" system.

Now I have no purpose in these remarks to work—the system of getting work done through contractors and subcontractors is characterized as the "sweating" system. Now I have no purpose in these remarks to make this system appear either right or tol-crable. I only desire to help you perceive that, so far as any system is involved, it pertains to industry in general, and is not, by any means, confined to a few branches. In these few branches, however, the sweating process—the process by which maidle-men come between the manufacturer, or person for whom the goods are being made and the worknen or persons acting the roads thus, it is said, reducing conditions entitly that we must ascribe the evals of what is called the "sweating" system in the clothing industry and other industries to go into the clothing business as a wholeone by contract. Instead of hiring men to have his garmen a under his own supervision is morely employs a few experis to cut these bods ready for midding and to tuneh them

as no lifefy to be from some other. They ay have shops of their own in which they I ay have snops of their own in which they project to make these garments, or they may have the contractor in building, subjet the making to scores of smaller contractors, who have them made in tenement shops, where they employ anywhere from five to a larger number of persons, who makes one in their own living rooms. When the persons, or they may give them out anual turer pays the contractor and what contractor pays the workmon.

assorted kinds and sizes ready for delivery

to the maker. He then invites bids from con-t a nors who make the manumeture of such

When the work is done in the tenement scena shop the sweating is increased by the picolis of the subscentrator. But this is en-fredly in line with what we have already seen they it am with white we have areasy sent trace place in all building operations. The workmen are "sweated" in precisely the same way by the contractors and sub-contractors in this fuduetry. What is it, then, that makes the difference? Why is the method of having work done by contract and

the time that of having work does by contract and sub-contract constructed having the contract of the same contract and sub-contract characterized as sweating in one case and not in the other one so the altar of Mammon is unknown to the time of the contractor is probably to be found in the different conditions under which the work is done. No matter who excets the buildings, the work is to be done on the ground and under the same conditions. The contractor can't take a house home to build it. He can't let out the various parts of it to be taken into miscrable tenements. The work must be done in the open air and under conditions and the conditions of the contractor in the conditions of the contractors who have the work on the item of read. But the manufacturer of clothing does. If he makes the clothing on his own premises the rent will then be many thousands of dollars annually. If he less the were onto contractors who have the work can't contractor who have the work can't contractor who have the work can't contractor

tion prices, with all their consequents of poverty and misery, to this system. But it is not at all clear to my mind that the charge is well grounded. The evidence seems to show that where the middle men, the contractors and subcontractors, are entirely dropped out, wages are no higher, while poverty and wretchedness are in no degree lessened. When the manufacturer deals directly with the workmen and the supply of workmen is greater than the demand be is just as ready to take advantage of their eagerness for a job as the contractor. And they are just as ready to underbid each other in their eagerness for work when dealing with a contractor or subcontractor. The tendency of the general competitive system is to force

so-called tenement sweat slop, where the main workroom is one of the two larger

tional, but practically universal. She gives detailed statistics of 153 families visited by

her in 1891-92, in each of which a wo can earned the whole or part of the family in-come in rooms occupied as family living rooms. Seventy-seven women, representing 500 persons, manufactured some article of

clothing, while seventy-six representing 377 persons, did faundry work, also in their living

persons, the islandry work also in their living rooms. Among the seventy-seven in not one instance was the work interrupted by the ill-ness in the faimly. Seventeen deaths sus-pended the work temporarily, but in one case, where a little child fell into a tub of seakling

water, the pantaloon finishers were not de-

Children assist in this work either directly

or indirectly, doing the housework, carrying the ciothing to the contractors, or taking care of younger children.

Thus a child of 2 years did all the house

home, I wenty-fair, between 18 and 18, worked in fa tories during the day, many of them aiding in the manufacturing at home in the evening. These twenty-foor earned a total of \$0.50 per week, but all this remember went

to make up the \$746 before mentioned.

The difficulty of estimating the work of the

children is illustrated in the case of a widow having three aged, respectively, 6, 8, and 12. The mother mates bables have drawn dresses, doing the buttonholes and finer work herself. The

12-year-old girl runs the sewing machine

stitching the seams and toeting. The 8-year-old cuts the embroidery, does some basting, and sews on the bottoms. The mother estimates that the children earn half the income. It is common for children of tender years to sit at this work all day, and when work is crowding

up to 10 and 11 o clock at night. And yet we boast of our Christian civilization and say that

beast of our Christian civilization and say that such benevolent and philanthrophic institu-tions as we have in this country are unknown in pagan lands. It would be well to remember at the same time that such sacrifice of the little ones on the altar of Mammon is unknown

labor, the ages of these children ranging from 10 to 18 years. We have in the average income of these We have in the average income of these families, not dependent upon "sweaters," confirmation of what I said in the early part of this address. It is not the subcontract system that is the root of the trouble, but the anarchy of competition, under which the weaker and less skillful are crowded into conditions absolutely fatal to healthful and decent living and full of peril, as it ought to be, to the whole community that suffers such an injustice and inhumanity to crist.

The specific evils then fostered by existing methods of conducting the clothing industry are:

methods of conducting the clothing industry are:

First—Permanent injury to the health and productive power of all persons working under or living in such conditions.

Second—The inevitable mental crippling and moral degradation of the children exposed to their influence.

Third—The danger to the whole community of infection from diseases carried in clothing made in these dens of flith and contagion. The latter consideration seems to me the least of all the one on which we should need to depend to secure action in this matter. No people making any claim to decency or humanity should suffer such fellow-beings to live for one day in such conditions as hundreds of thousands in our large cities are now subjected to without making some serious and tractor or subcontractor. The tendency of the general competitive system is to force wages down to the point of subsistence, and this tendency will become effective wherever the workmen are too ignorant to combine against it. It does not matter greatly, if at all, as to wages, whether the work is done through contractors and subcontractors or given out directly to workmen. In either event, so long as they compete with each other for work and do not stand together in regard to wages it will not be possible for the less skillful workmen to rise much above subsistence rates. So far, then, as the low wages and the poverty and misery are concerned, they are not to be charged to the account of the creating or subcontract system. cerned, they are not to be charged to the account of the creating or subcontract system.
They are the natural and necessary results of
the system of industrial competition, which in
the very nature of things enables the strong
to despoil the weak and the cunning to defraud
the simple. As long as this system prevails,
as long as the brains of the country are allowed to exploit its industries for their own
advantage, regardless of the general weak,
poverty and mis-ry will be the portion of the
weaker classes no matter under what medifications of method their exploitation is carried
on. But there are evils in the present manjected to without making some serious and concerted effort to afford relief, even if the jected to without making some scrious and concerted effort to afford relief, even if the conditions of filth and misery involved nothing of peril or injury to the general body. Our humanity may, the more common feeling that desires to see even dogs and horses comfortably housed and decently provided for should move us to action in this matter. But I am sorry to say that not even this nation, to say nothing of christendom at large, has not yet arrived at the point where considerations of this sort have any great weight when they involve any high degree of self-denying and self-sacrifleing endeavor, even though this denial and sacrifice be only of the lower self and in the interest of the higher. We must therefore make our chief appeal to the lower and more obvious interests of men—their personal and general safety and health. And the argument from this point is oogent and ample. on. But there are evils in the present management of the clothing industry that do not obtain to anything like the same extent in other lines of business. other lines of business.

They are due to the bad sanitary and hygienic conditions under which the greater part of the work done is carried on. About one-half of the clothing is made in factories rued and run by contractors, who get work herever they can. These factories are under spection, and sanitary conditions, while far non good, are better than in tenement sweat

the argument from this point is eogent and ample.

As the Congressional report shows nearly, if not quite, one-half of all the clothing worn by the majority of our people is made under conditions not merely revolting to humanity and decency, but such as to endanger the health of the wearer. Not merely is this work so largely apportioned to all grades of clothing that none can be considered as exempt, but the use of ready-made goods has become so universal that no community and scarcely any family is free from danger. The contagion thus spread is not merely of general conditions of uncleanness and miscellaneous disease germs, but of whooping cough, diphtheria, scariet fever, and typhus, from the very quarters where at once they are most continuously epidemie, and where are developing the centers of the manufacture we have investigated. The report goes on to point out that no other material so invites the use during manufacture that will bring it into content with sixtens and incontent with sixtens and with sixtens and incontent with Here men, women, and children herd' together like cattle, cooking, cating, sewing,
sleeping are all carried on in the same
rooms, and very frequently the clothing on
which they sew, sixteen hours out of the
twenty-four, constitutes their only bed and
covering during the brief period they get for
sleep. The report of the Congressional committee appointed to investigate the "sweating" system—a report made only last year—
has the following language:

"A typical and a most general example of
these subcontractors" establishments is the
so-called tonement sweat slop, where the main workroom is one of the two larger rooms of the tenement flat, and overflowing into the adjacent rooms, is made to accommodate from six to fifteen, or even more, sweating employes—men, women, and children—while in the other large room of the flat is the domestic headquarters of the "sweater," his living, sleeping, cooking arrangement overflowing into the workroom use during manufacture that will bring it into contact with sickness and disease, and no other is so well fitted to shelter and transport the germs when once they have found a lodg-

ment.
That the danger is not merely theoretical rangement overnowing into the workroom-employee whem he boards and who eat at their work and sleep on the goods, frequently completing the intimate connection of living and manufacturing conflitions. Such are the circumstances under which probably more nor confined to the lower classes is abundantly proven. The daughter of Sir Robert Peel contrasted disease from a riding habit made at the home of the workman. A small-pox case developed in Dayton, O., from clething infected in Cincinnati, Numerous cardid from contrasting the contrasting from the contr carlet fever cases were directly traced from

the circumstances under which protably more than one-fourth of our ready-made and somewhat, though only a small per cent. of our custom-made clothing is made. The people engaged in the bunness are aming those whose families are most prolife, whose sense of order and cleanlines is least developed, and y whom the distinctions between hiving and workrooms is least comprehended, not to say made. The premises are generally dirty to the point of fifth, and are generally fit the most squalid and densely populated parts of the sity.

But the report adds, "this is not the bottom step. Abother location of the elothing is made. home tenement work in New York.

The committee in the course of its investigation was startled to find the manufacture of clothing going on at these very houses where were signs warning the comers of the

The danger, then, is imminent. Doubtless thousands of cases have already occurred where parties have had no suspicion of the cause, and the doctor had no showledge that would enable him to divine it.

It is claumed by many that the process of

step. Acother fourth of the clothing is made by what are known as the tenement home workers. These are beauts of femalies, in-hibiting one or more rooms, and generally necommorating either another family as subpressing with a hot from is a suificent sufepresent with a not tron is a sunce in suc-cuard, as they say this is sure to destroy all the germs. But the testimony of men expe-rienced in this line did not bear out this ciain. On the contrary, it was shown that in many cases it would only afford the needed warmth to encourage development. The warmth to encourage development. The danger, then, is real, and the necessity of pre-

State action, but have proved scorrive. They have only resulted in driving the manufacturing business out of the State enacting such laws into other States where they do not exist. The experence of Massachusetts proves State legislation. It has only resulted in driving a large part of the business out of the State, and so is robbing its own workmen of employment. Doubtless some good has been accomplished, but the results, on the whole.

She—Kot deigning to beed,) Is it because when driving a large part of the business out of the state, and so is robbing its own workmen of employment. Doubtless some good has been accomplished, but the results, on the whole.

She—We are brighter. But we don't mind them; they mind us.

She—Ye-es.

are far from what is needed.

Nothing short of national legislation will Acting short of national registation will meet the urgent necessities of the case.

The right of regulation has already been admitted and affirmed by the passage of State enactments. If the smaller state may regulate individual action in matters of this sort in the general interest, why may not the larger State—the nation? Is it not the province of the nation to do those things which the gen-eral interests demand, and which can not be done, or so well done by the more local ad-ministrative body? This is the plain verdict until the little body was taken to the eme-tery. The greatest total income from all sources of the seventy-seven women, who sup-ported 150 persons, was \$756—\$1.44 for each person per week. The total rent was \$736.25 of common sense and the conclusion reached by the Congressional committee, and the report of the committee closes with a recom-mendation that such legislation be had by Congress, as, with least interference with the business of the citizen and least exercise of Federal jurisdiction, will effectually prevent interstate commerce in articles of clothing or personal wear made under unhealthy condi-Thus a child of 9 years did all the housework, including washing and I roning, for a family of five. Another girl of 6 years carried three or four dezen cests at a time up five flights of stepe, and the mother couldn't understand why the child was not well.

Anong the seventy-seven families four children, 14-16 years of age, 319 years of age, aided their mothers at home. Twenty-cur, between 14 and 18, worked in factors, during the day many of them.

ions of manufacture.

Legislation that will effectually accomplish
his will be a great boon to all classes of peode. We trust it will be had. The need for is growing more and more imperative as the evils to be remedied are rapidly increasing. The labor bureau of Mussachusofts testifies that the amount of work sent to New York appears to be increasing, while that now sent them would under conditions formerly prevailing, have been done in Boston. And, the report continues, under the pressure of New York competition the tendency seems to be toward the industrial conditions obtaining there. The wholesaler or contractor in Boston is subjected by the sanitary laws of his own State to an unequal competition. petition with New York contractors and get the business. The annual output of forty-get the business. The annual output of the three establishments in Boston has a quoted three establishments in Boston has a quoted money value of \$18,020,950. Of this amoun 88,97 per cent, is made under the contract system and is free to go wherever it can be made at lowest cost. It can be made at lowest cost. It can be made at low-est money cost where social conditions are lowest and where humanity is most imbruited and degraded.

est money cost where social conditions are lowest and where humanity is most imbruited and degraded.

The business which most concerns the bodily comfort and health of the whole people of the land is more and more tending to the very centers of degradation and of physical and moral pollution, and worst of all is intensifying and spreading more widely the very conditions which draw it to these centers. The marvel to me is that these poor creatures that slave for fifteen to twenty hours a day in the midst of such poverty and misery, and for a pittance barely sufficient to keep soul and body together, are so patient and so enduring I don't wonder that there are tramps and highwaymen and train-robbers. I only wonder that there are not more.

There must be a great deal of natural goodness in men—of real reluctance to array themselves against law and order and the rights of their fellows—when they can hold themselves, under such conditions, to the terrible slavery inseparable from their lot. Surely we should be glad if any word or effort of ours can do anything whatever to lighten their burdens or throw a single ray of sunshine into the darkness of their lot. Let us hope that the words spoken this day from hundreds of pulpits and printed to—morrow in thousands of papers may find a response in

AT TWENTY-ONE.

(Reported verbatim for THE TIMES.)

that of how much we can believe in our own pretenses.

She (disdainfully)-Tell me again nov that you love me, He-I do love you. You know that I do.

Oh, Helen, you are so beautiful!

(Helps her off with her opera cloak, under which is revealed a wonderful white silk gown, soft, and clinging lovingly to her small, slim figure. During the operation he reverts to his philosophy.)

Willard and Miss Burroughs whose pre tense is their trade were the realest people in the house to-night. I think I like you best at a comedy. When Willard de spaired your eyes shone so sympa thetically, and when he carried Miss Burroughs in his arms from the hay-field your smile was delicious, I thought. Well, of course every man thought that who was

with a pretty girl. She (venturing slightly toward danger under the cover of ignorance). Thought what!

what!
He—Thought I would like to have you faint in a hay-field under such pleasing circumstances.

She—But it is winter. (Seats herself and begins unbuttoning her glove. He may think from the words if he likes that she wishes him to propose a drawing-room as the winter substitute for a hay-field, but her unconcerned manner indicates that this is far, far from her mind.)

He (seeing her generalship and resolving

far from her mind.)

He (seeing her generalship and resolving not to be thus tantalized, clasping her hand with the pretense of helping her, and then holding it very tightly for a moment, without accelerating the removal of the glove)—Faint right here, won't you? I promise you I will hold you very tightly. old you very tightly. She—Why should I? (tugging slightly at her

and).

He—Faint lady ne'er failed to win heart.

She—But I don't want your heart.

He—Give it back, then.

She—Where is it? I must have misplaced

He-Don't tool with me. I remember dis-He—Don't fool with me. I remember dis-tinctly when you stole it.

She—Bah! You said Monday night, "When time was not still I loved you so," which dis-tinctly proves that you have not had your heart in this existence. I don't believe you He-Give me yours, then,

She—I can't pass it around so easily as you an (feminine disdain for logic.)
He—I don't wish you to. I will be satisfied

to keep it—forever.

She—The way you do the letters I gave you to post-forgotten in your coat pocket? There's He (making mistake of releasing her hand the (making mistake of releasing her hand to put his own uneasily on the outside of his inner pocket). There's not, I carried it in my hand to the box. I remember distinctly the look of the box. There's a dab of green paint on the handle of the slot cover

He-I won't. Can't you take my word?

She-Look. He-I won't (puts his hand in his pocket and withdraws it quickly).

She—And yet you ask me to love you when you refuse me things and when you carry my forzotten letters around in your pockets?

He—It is for your own good.

She (scornfully)—Which? I won't have you don't thing for your own.

ing things for my good. He-Both. You wouldn't have me harm you? I couldn't do that. I love you so, We nineteenth-century lovers have not the strength to be cruel, only to be kind. Even

when we see you going wrong we are too much bewitched by the way you do it and too shien tewacened by the way you do it and too so t-hearted to protest.

she (half in petulant joking, half in smiling striousness)—fou do: you know you do. You refuse to show me that letter. But what are we talking in this ridiculous way for? I do not love you: I never can love you. Please, please never speas of it again. (There is an incompare performance in her voltes and face immense seriousness in her voice and face Third—What are the remedies for these evis? How shall we remove or lessen them; I got it this afternoon at the cinb, Miss Wilson, who is so terriby in earnest about her conscience, you for I do not think the public is ripe for any herself for having said that the public is ripe for any herself for having said that the public is ripe for any herself for having said that the public is ripe for any herself is public. herself for having said "not at home" to Charge Somers when she had curi papers in charge somers were see hat care papers in her har for her party. I had never thought of it before, but I simest convinced her that she was awaily wrong. Earl I interesting to sham a belief until you almost argue over your eff, and then flud some one on the other

He -Two souls with but a single thought. Oh! Helen! I -Wait. I wish to discuss this affinity

She—Ye-es, He—They believe, and we don't. We are wide enough to reflect both sides but its all width. We are bright, but awfully shallow. We are like Howelis. We see everything and understand. They see only one side, and not all of that, but they believe in it and act. We

She-Ob but Jack

She—On, out sack.

He—Never.

She—But one who is so bright must.

Think of our insight into people's motives.

Think of how we rend their faces and answer
their questions before they speak. That's all part of my argument,

He - Well, sometimes I think I (assumes a the west, sometimes I think I (assumes a thilly different time to hide the slip)— netimes I think we may be a little deep, slightly diffe It's our wills our wills and our education cannot concentrate ourselves, deep, but we see so many things that we don't know which to choose. We are dilettantes.

know which to choose. We are dilettantes. We don't choose anything. She (her eyes belping her words)—Oh, if you don't—
He—You. Of course I choose you always.
That's a different matter. That's a different
thing entirely. (They pause. There has not
been much warmth in her interjection or in

his own immensely praiseworthy effort. It is so unsatisfying a thing at 21 not to end a tetea-tete by being for a little while in love.)

He (again, after a moment, rising)—I willgo. (Hesitates.) If you will sing me a song

go. (Hesitates.) If you will sing me a song I will go.

She—Oh, don't go. It's only (looks at her watch)—why, it's half-past twelve. (Feels quite happy because the time has passed so quickly and they must be a little in love.)

quickly and they must be a little in love.)

He—Sing for me a little while, (Fishes among her music.)

She—Well, one song.

He (singing in an undertone)—"Tis the Language of Love." (Brings Marguerite's song to her, where she has seated herself at the piano. She sings passionately.)

He—Oh, Helen! you are so beautiful. (Sotto voce) I do love her,

She (rising)—Is it not divine.

He—Yes. (He puts on his overcont.)

She (extending her hand)—Good night,
Jack. (She dwells on his name.)

He—Good night, (He suddenly bends over the little white hand in his and touches it with his lips. They quickly embrace. It is their first kiss. They have been a long time reaching it.)

their first kiss. They have been a long time reaching it.)

He (again, sotto voce, as he goes out through the door into the hall)—It was the song. I was afraid I didn't love her and that she was tired of me, but I do. Yes, I'm sure I do. And she loves me. I'm not all pretense after all. At least, I hope I'm not. She (sotto voce, too, looking after him)—Oh! I'm so glad I'm in love! I was so afraid I was cold-hearted. And he loves me, too; oh, so dearly; and Jack said we were all pretense. It's not; it's not. It can't be.

He (entering again with a glowing, tender face and hand outstretched)—I had to come back to hope again that your mother's head-

back to hope again that your mother's head-ache will be better in the morning. Please, Helen, don't be troubled; and you know how Heien, don't be troubled; and you know how much you have my sympathy, don't you? (He has taken her hand. He is sufficiently on terms of friendship with the conventional usages. He thinks she will notice that he has not waited for the offer of hers and believe his action the result of his intense sympathy. He does not know how much of it is real. Part of it is.

She-You dear boy. (Exit both through the door into the hall.) HARRY CHIPMAN BURSLEY.

Very Exclusive. "Parker left the Scaddleberry reception in a buff." "Did he? What was the matter?" "His hat check was number 502. Parker is one of the 400."—Bazar.

MORE WORK FOR A BUREAU

He-Our "proper study" has come to be Taxation of Proprietary Articles Will Call for More Engraving.

POUR KINDS OF STAMPS IN USE.

In Case Patent Medicines Are Taxed, What Stamps Must Be Printed, and What Privileges Proprietors May Be Allowed as to the Selection and Execution of Their Own Particular Designs.

If a tax is put on proprietary articles, as has been suggested in the Senate, a new industry will be opened to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing-an industry that was abandone eleven years ago, as it was thought forever, So certain was the chief of the bureau in that day that the government would never return to the old system of taxing proprietary articles that he destroyed all of the plates used in printing the special stamps. If the new law should be enacted though, the expense would all fall on the manufacturers. So the officials of the Treasury are not worrying about it. The Bureau of Engraving now makes only

four varieties of revenue stamps. They are for distilled spirits, fermented spirits, tobacco, and snuff. These stamps are of different denominations, and each denomination has its own design. But the tobacco stamp of one denomination issued to one manufacturer is the same as the tobacco stamp of the same denomination issued to another manufacturer, There is some distinction made in the elaborateness and ornateness of the designs of these different stamps. The stamp which is to go on the box of eigars which stands on your library table is a little more picturesque than the stamp which is used on the strip tobacco package. The bureau concedes so much to art.

The internal revenue stamps used to levy a

tax on "patent medicines" were of varied design. There was a common stamp for these medicines, just as there is for tobacco. But under the law any manufacturer who was willing to bear the additional expense of preparing a special die, and the additional expense, if any, of printing stamps after his own design, could have special stamps printed for him at the bureau. And so many of the proprietors of well-known proprietary articles availed themselves of this privilege because of the distinction which it carried that the Bureau of Engraving had on hand at the time the law taxing these articles was repealed between 200 and 300 dies. All of these dies had been made in the bureau. No plate made outside the bureau is used there, and no die has been as yet. When the bureau takes the contract for printing the postage stamps on the 1st of July it will use the dies of the contractors who are now doing the work. These dies were made by the engravers of this private concern, but they were paid for by the Post Office Department, and they are the property of the govern-

ment.

Not only was the engraving for the patent medicine stamps done in the bureau, but the designing of most of them was done by the bureau artists. They were quite as competent to throw a glumer around a little liver pill as a private workman was. The bureau was paid for their work in proportion to the elaborateness of the design. Within reasonable bounds, of course, there was no limit on the sine of the stamp which could be used. The plen of the manufacturers was that their distinctive labels, which had cost a great deal of money, would be spoiled by the imposition of money, would be spoiled by the imposition of the little square stamp of faded red which was issued by the government. So authority was given them to have stamps made to conform to these labels, and some of them went so far as to have the bureau print the labels. property, and that will necessary and use property only for ends of manhood.

But we cannot wait for this. We must do what we can under the present refine to issen and, as far as possible remove the crias of which we have spoken. Attempts have all ready been made to remedy these exists by the second with the factor of the standard of the design of the standard government to be printing labels for both's of sarsaparilla, but that is what the Treasury Bejartment may come to if the new law is not the weak of the standard of the standard the standard of the design of the standard to the standard to the standard the standard the old policy of the government is carried to a logical conclusion.

The Region of the design of the standard to the standard to the standard the standard the old policy of the government is carried to a logical conclusion.

The Bureau of Engraving keeps several thousand dies and plates always on hand, but whenever it seems probable that one of them will not be needed again it is taken to them will not be needed again it is taken to the Navy Yard, broken up, cast into the tur-nace and melted. All of this is done with due solemnity, in the presence of a commit-tee of Treasury clerks. The "patent medi-cine" dies were destroyed in this way. There are some pretty shrewd lawyers in Washing-ton, who make a specialty of cases against the government. One of these, C. H. Parthe government. One of these, C. H. Par-sons, fancied that the people who had paid tor the special proprietary stamps had a pro-prietary interest in the dies. So he ob-tained authority from the medicine makers and filed a claim with the Treasury Depart. ment for the value of them. The First Comptreller disallowed the claim after it had

been pending for several years. Only a short time and this claim was revived, and the Comptroller again disallowed it. Collectors will have some difficulty in ob-taining copies of the internal revenue stamps from the bureau if the new law is passed There has been to difficulty in obtaining India proofs or specimens of postage stamps from the Post Office Department in the past, But even that may be changed when the Bureau of Engraving and Printingundertakes the contract of printing the postage stamps next July. The Soheitor of the Treasury has made a raling that it is contrary to law for the bureau to give to anyone specimens of its work on the securities of the government. He has ruled that the bureau chief who sent specimens of the bonds of the United States to the office Secretary of the Treasury view. imens of the bearetary of the Treasury vio-lated the law. No one, he says, has any right to issue anything in the form of an obligation of the government except by authority of law; and there is no law permitting the bureau to give specimens of its work to even the Secretary of the Treasury. There are some excep-tions to this rule of the department. There tions to this rule of the department. There are some engravings done as practice work by the apprentices in the bureau which are never used on securities, and of which copies are sometimes given to visitors as mementoes of the big money mill. Then the practice has grown up of recent years of giving away copies of the portraits of public men which have been engraved for use on banknotes or bonds. This practice is not encouraged, but it is not forbidden.

The bureau people are amused at the proposition that they may be prevented by some

The bureau people are amused at the proposition that they may be prevented by some adverse action of the appropriations committee from undertaking the business of printing the postage stamps. Two of the Pennsylvania Representatives in Congress have stated recently that they would oppose an appropriation asked for extending the bureau, on the ground that the chief had no right to undertake the stamp contract without authority of Congress. The appropriations committee may refuse to grant this appropriation, and the bureau people will be very sorry to mittee may refuse to grant this appropriation, and the bureau people will be very sorry to see this done, but the refusal will not affect the status of the stamp contract. The bureau has not asked any appropriation for the purpose of carrying out the stamp contract. That contract carries itself out. The general appropriation for the support of the Post Office Department provides for the printing of the stamps. The pay for the work will come to the bureau not in the Treasury appropriation but in the Post Office appropriation, The bureau people are also inclined to ridicule the claim of the private bidders for the postage stamp contract that there are trade secrets the claim of the private bidders for the postage stamp contract that there are trade secrets
in the making of stamps which they do not
know. They say that if there are any such
secrets the owners of them are quite welcome
to keep them. The bureau made its bid for
the contract after figuring the cost of the
stamps by its own process. If its estimates
are correct, it ought to comeo ut even on the
contract at the very worst.

are correct, it ought to comeo ut even on the contract at the very worst.

The color work on the postage stamps will not be new to the bureau. In addition to the work which it has done on proprietary stamps it has mixed and used every shade of color in its other work. Brown was used on the "brown backs," green on the "green-backs;" different blues on customs stamps and on the backs of bonds. All of the mixing of colors is done in the bureau. So if any complaint is made of the quality of the ink used in the new stamps, as has been done in some of the cl1 o. so, there will be no difficulty in tracing the responsibility.

George Gentrham Bain.

A Written Guarantee-

Is the one condition upon which we treat our patients. A guarantee that pledges an absolute cure in every

If We Fail to Cure Your Catarrh YOU OWE US NOTHING!

CONSULTATION AND FREE

Diagnose Your Own Case I ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

CATARRH OF HEAD AND THROAT. CATARRH OF BRONCHIAL TUBES.

"ls your sense of smell leaving"
"be you hawk to clear the throat?"
"ls there a dropping in the throat?"
"ls the throat dry in the morning?"
"Are you lesing your sense of taste?"
"Do you sleep with the mouth open."
"Does the nose step up toward night?"

CAIARRH OF HEAD AND IRRUAL.

This is the most prevalent form of Catarrh and results from neglected colds.

"Is the breath foul?"

"Is the breath foul?"

"Bo you spit up silme?"

"Do you spit up silme?"

"Do you spit up silme?"

"Do you shore at night?"

"Do you snote at night?"

"Do you snote at night?"

"Do you need descharge?"

"Do so the nose bleed easily?"

"Is there tickling in throat?"

"Is the nose sore and tender?"

"Is there pain in front of head?"

"Is there pain in front of head?"

"Is there pain across the eyes?"

"Is there pain in front of head?"

"Is there pain in back of head?"

"Is your sense of smell leaving?"

"Do you hawk to clear the throat?"

"Is there a dropping in the throat?"

"Is there a dropping in the throat?"

"Is the throat dry in the morning?"

"Are you love splitted at times?"

"Are you love splitted at times?"

"Is your sense of smell leaving?"

"Are you love splitted at times?"

"Is your sense of smell leaving?"

"Are you love splitted at times?"

"Are you pain beind the head and throat is left unchecked it extends down the windpile into unchecked it extends down the bind the polations in the hoad?"

"Is there a burning pain in the throat?"

"Is there a burning pain in the thr "Are you irritable?"
"Have you pain in side?"
"Do you cough at night?"
"Are you losing flesh?"

DO YOU KNOW THESE GENTLEMEN? MR. J. W. FARRAR, an employe of the Treasury Department,

nd residing at 2307 Washington Circle, says: "During the winter of 1872 I suffered a very severe attack of pneumonia, which left me with bronchitis. A change of climate was advised by my physician, and I accordingly went to California in the hope of being benefited—but was disappointed.

"I then made a study of threat and lung diseases with especial reference to my own case, and became convinced that no cure could be effected without DIRECTLY treating the diseased parts. Through friends I learned of Dr. Riegel and his new methods, and immediately placed myself under his care. Within one week my acute catarrh was GONE—subsequent treatment has strengthened my lungs wonderfully, and my bronchitis is now randily disappearing."

MR. GEORGE McKENNA, who resides at 1412 Thirty-fourth street, Georgetown, says:

"About the middle of Becember I caught a heavy cold, which settled on my lungs. I gave it little thought, believing it would wear away; but it was stubborn, and almost before I realized it my strength began to fail. Then I lost courage and was preparing for the worst. My father finally prevailed upon me to visit Dr. Riegel, and to-day I am very thankful that he did so—for I am almost well."

These are but two out of a long list of persons who are now being treated with splendid results by Dr. Riegel. REMEMBER.

The consultation, the medicine, and the treatment are absolutely FREP, and will continue so until you are perfectly satisfied that substantial benefit is being derived. Now is the accepted time. Availyourself of this generous offer—one that has never before been made in Washington.

In Diseases of the Eye, Ear. Nose, Throat, and

SPECIALIST

1014 15th St. N. W.

THEY GO TO SLAVERY WILLINGLY

To Enter a Harem is the Height of a Circassian Girl's Ambition. Far from dreading their sale the girls of Circassia look forward to it as the greatest opportunity of their lives. They go to seek it says the Popular Science Monthly as a costly setting. They show no more reluctance than Esther manifested when Mordecal delivered her over as one of the fair young virgins gathered from far and near to the palace of Ahasuerus. Indeed, the history of Esther reveals the motives which probably animate each of the many maldens of Circassin, who to this day re-enact the old Biblica

story. Each believes that it is she who may

find grace and favor in the royal crown, and thus control at will the rise or fail of the royal scepter.

But even if not chosen by royalty those who prehase the beautiful dam are the wealthy and titled, and not the slightare the wealthy and titled, and not the slight-est social degradation is attached to their po-sition even if taken to harems wherein a Turkish wife may be installed as head of the household. The common dependence of all the immates of a harem upon the favor of a lord who may at any time elevate a Circas-sian slave to the position of a lady fosters a spirit of equality, of pure, practical democ-racy, that would be inconceivable under any other circumstances, and in our Southern racy, that would be inconceivable under any other circumstances, and in our Southern slave relation to nominal mistress was toslave relation to nominal mistress was to-tally undreamed of. As a Turkish lady ex-plained to an astonished English visitor, "A slave may become a lady any day, and in treating her as one beforehand we take off much of the awkwardness which would else ensue." When we consider that all the chilensue." When we consider that all the chil-dren of slaves are acknowledged as the legiti-

mate children of their father, we must confess in justice to the Turk that theirs is a condi-tion in which the evils of slavery to the slave are reduced to a minimum. NO FOOL OF A DAY.

April First Changes, Under the Census, in Personnel and Division Work. The approaching completion of the work

of the Eleventh Census is resulting in a graduni depletion of the ranks of employes. The total number of names borne on the rolls of the Bureau is now a little over 900. At least several score of these will be given notice of dismissal on the 1st of April, the next pay-

Conferences between Superintendent Wright and the chiefs of divisions are held almost daily, and the chiefs are frequently qestioned as to the probability of completing various branches of the work in the time estimated by

them.

The expected dismissals for the middle of the month did not materialize, and the already selected names will probably constitute a large portion of the list for dismissals on the list of It was the intention of the officials to let the

insurance, agriculture and transportation di-visions cense last Thursday, but their discon-tinuance was postponed for a short time. Expiring Washington Patents. The list of patents which expires next Tues

day, the regular issue day of the Patent Office, includes the devices of four inventors of this city, viz: Patent 188,599, for packaging coin, H. Croggon, assignor to self and George S. Prindell, filed February 24, 1877; patent 188,611, safety car trucks, D. E. Dutrow, filed January 29, 1877; patent 188,665, extension steps for cars, C. W. Perkins, filed February 9, 1877, and patent 188,676, compounds for artificial stone, C. Schaeffer, assignor to George W. Cook, filed March 7,

A Great Guesser. Trotter—Say, old man, I suppose you can't lend me \$10." Barlow—No, my dear boy; but a man with your capacity for guessing the right thine ought to be able to win a fortune down in Wall street."—Judge.

The Irish Onestion Tom-What is the Irish question, anyhow? I would like to know. Jerry-I'm not sure, but I think it is: "Has the registered letter

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STORIES OF GENERALS.

After Mr. Sumner had criticised Gen. Grant savagely, some one was talking to Grant marked:
"Even Sumner does not believe in the "Why should he?" quietly replied Grant,
"He didn't write it."

When Gen, Sherman was traveling through New Mexico after the civil war he remarked

to a company of friends:

"I always thought the Mexican war was an unholy war, but now I would like to fight Mexico again."

When asked why, he replied:

"To make her take back New Mexico."

Gen. Mahone was wounded at second Manassas, and some one, to comfort Mrs. Mahone,

"Oh, don't be uneasy; it's only a flesh wound."
Mrs. Mahone, through her tears, cried out:
"Oh, that is impossible; there is not flesh
enough on him for that."

In 1886 Gen. Sherman, then retired, visited s military post and was present while the class was at signal drill. The instruction was with the heliograph—an instrument invented since the civil war. The general seemed inuse, and wanted if explained; at the same time he stood so as carefully to intercept with his person the sun's rays from the mirror, so

"Go on with your work, boys; don't stop for me, I'm a back number," called the gen-

for me, I'm a back number, cance the general;

"We can't, general; you are cutting off the light," replied the operator at the screen.

The general jumped back quickly, apologizing as he did so.

"Yes, yes; the world is marching on and we old men have had our day and are straggling behind. Why, in my time we did this sort of thing by shaking flags, and we called it 'wig-wag."

Then he laughed and walked away across the green parade.